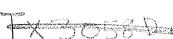
3,718,761 [11]

[45] **Feb. 27, 1973**

Myer



OMNIDIRECTIONAL PLANAR OPTICAL CODE READER

[75] Inventor: Jon H. Myer, Woodland Hills, Calif.

[73] Assignee: Hughes Aircraft Company, Culver

City, Calif.

[22] Filed: March 27, 1968

[21] Appl. No.: 718,981

[52] U.S. Cl......178/7.6, 178/DIG. 27, 350/6,

350/7, 235/61.11 E

[58] Field of Search.......178/7.6, DIG. 27; 350/6, 7,

350/285; 250/235, 236; 235/61.11 E; 356/71

[56] **References Cited**

UNITED STATES PATENTS

3,109,933	11/1963	Baumann	235/61.11 E
3,414,731	12/1968		235/61.11 E
3,502,803	3/1970		178/6
3,511,571	5/1970		356/71
2,163,543	6/1939	Clothier	178/7.6
3,350,156	10/1967		250/236
3,457,422	7/1969	Rottmann	350/6

FOREIGN PATENTS OR APPLICATIONS

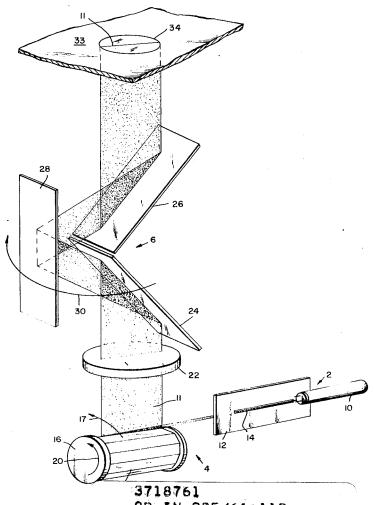
6,513	6/1933	Australia	178/7.6
374,564	6/1932	Great Britain	178/7.6

Primary Examiner-Robert L. Griffin Assistant Examiner-Joseph A. Orsino, Jr. Attorney-James K. Haskell and Lewis B. Sternfels

[57] **ABSTRACT**

An optical system for reading graphic codes, regardless of their orientation in a plane, includes apparatus for generating a scan of a shaped light beam and rotating the scan on and across targets having a code for transmission of the code to a detector. Alternatively, the code of the target may be included within the beam which is scanned across and rotated on the detector. In both cases, the beam is so dimensioned as to enable proper reading of the code. Such reading is useful in inventorying, cataloging, and tabulating goods such as items in warehouses, factories, supply depots and various commercial retail outlets such as supermarkets.

41 Claims, 11 Drawing Figures



OR IN 235/61.11R